



Small Projects Day – April 7, 2020, Section 2: Resource Specialist Review

Project Name: Macintyre Permanent Opening

A proposed action may be categorically excluded from analysis and documentation in an EA or EIS only if there are no extraordinary circumstances related to that proposed action. Potential presence of extraordinary circumstances must be addressed by the appropriate resource specialists.

EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES RESOURCE CONDITIONS ¹	RESOURCE CONDITIONS PRESENT ²		MITIGATIONS REQUIRED		NAME/ TITLE	DATE	
	YES	NO	YES	NO			
Federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat (ANIMALS)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gretchen E. Nareff, Wildlife Biologist	11-4-20	
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input type="checkbox"/> no effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect							
Rationale: Potential for Northern long-eared bats							
Forest Service sensitive Species (RFSS-Animals)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input type="checkbox"/> no effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect							
Rationale: Potential for invertebrates (butterflies and dragonflies). The proposed project is not likely to negatively impact invertebrates since it is scheduled for winter/early spring; the long-term outcome will be an increase in available habitat.							
Describe Mitigations required: No harvesting 15 April–31 August. Minimize the amount of time between creating piles and burning, if applicable.							
BE Complete	Y	N	USFWS Consultation Complete?		Y	N	N/A
Date Completed: 3-31-20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date Completed: 11-4-2020		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat (PLANTS)	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Forest Service sensitive Species (RFSS-Plants)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MB Deller/ Botanist	March 30, 2020	
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect							
Rationale: No RFSS known to occur there, and not very good potential rare plant habitat							
Describe Mitigations required: None							
BE Complete?	Y	N					
Date Completed: March 30, 2020	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					

¹ FSH 1909.15 Section 30

² The mere presence of one or more of these resource conditions does not preclude use of a categorical exclusion. It is the degree of the potential effect of a proposed action on these resource conditions that determines whether extraordinary circumstance exist.





EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES RESOURCE CONDITIONS ¹	RESOURCE CONDITIONS PRESENT ²		MITIGATIONS REQUIRED		NAME/ TITLE	DATE				
	YES	NO	YES	NO						
Flood plains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeremy Mears, Fish Biologist	4/3/2020				
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect Rationale: Describe Mitigations required:										
Wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gifford, Ecologist and Wildlife Biologist	4/1/2020				
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect Rationale: Not present. Describe Mitigations required: None.										
Army Corps of Engineer permit needed? <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>							Y	N	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Y	N									
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>									
Municipal watersheds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeremy Mears, Fish Biologist	4/3/2020				
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect Rationale: Describe Mitigations required:										
Designated Wilderness Areas Wilderness Name: Lye Brook	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Holly Knox, Recreation Program Manager	3/18/2020				
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect Rationale: Project area located over 0.5 miles from the nearest Wilderness: Lye Brook. The potential for short-term noise that may be heard from heavy equipment, chainsaws, or other equipment would not be a measurable effect on the quality of the visitor's opportunity for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation on the Lye Brook Wilderness Describe Mitigations required:										
Designated National Recreation Areas NRA Name _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emily Lauderdale, District Recreation Program Manager	3/24/2020				
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect										





EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES RESOURCE CONDITIONS ¹	RESOURCE CONDITIONS PRESENT ²		MITIGATIONS REQUIRED		NAME/ TITLE	DATE		
	YES	NO	YES	NO				
Rationale: project is located outside NRAs								
Describe Mitigations required:								
National Scenic Trails Trail Name(s) <u>Appalachian Trail</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emily Lauderdale, District Recreation Program Manager	3/24/2020		
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect								
Rationale: Project is located outside of the Appalachian Trail corridor								
Describe Mitigations required:								
Eligible Wild, Scenic, Recreational Rivers Type (s) <u>Recreation eligible</u> River Name(s) <u>Roaring Branch</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emily Lauderdale, District Recreation Program Manager	3/24/2020		
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect								
Rationale: Although project is within the eligible W&S (recreation) corridor for Roaring Branch, activities would not negatively impact Outstandingly Remarkable Values (Historic, Fish, Wild) of the river, nor would they affect future eligibility of the river. Proposed activities are located above the river on a plateau and would be unlikely to be seen from the river.								
Describe Mitigations required:								
Roadless Area Conservation Rule Areas (RACR)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shawn Langston, NEPA Planner	3/16/2020		
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect								
Rationale: The project area is not located within a RACR area.								
Describe Mitigations required:								
Research Natural Areas (RNAs) RNA Name(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gifford, Ecologist and Wildlife Biologist	4/1/2020		
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect								
Rationale: Not present.								





EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES RESOURCE CONDITIONS ¹	RESOURCE CONDITIONS PRESENT ²		MITIGATIONS REQUIRED		NAME/ TITLE	DATE
	YES	NO	YES	NO		
Describe Mitigations required: None.						
American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Andrew Triplett/ Tribal Liaison</i>	<i>March 24, 2020</i>
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect						
Rationale:						
Describe Mitigations required:						
Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Andrew Triplett/ Forest Archeologist</i>	<i>March 24, 2020</i>
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect						
Rationale:						
Describe Mitigations required: Areas outside of stands previously surveyed for ESHC will need to be surveyed to determine if precontact sites are present. If there are then we can buffer them and project can proceed.						

OTHER RESOURCE CONDITIONS (as applicable)	RESOURCE CONDITIONS PRESENT		MITIGATIONS REQUIRED		NAME/ TITLE	DATE
	YES	NO	YES	NO		
Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>A. Quintana, Soil Scientist</i>	<i>4/6/20</i>
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input type="checkbox"/> no effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect						
Rationale: Forest plan Standards and guidelines and Early Successional Habitat Creation Project design criteria for soil resources will be followed, to minimize negative effects to soil resources.						
Describe Mitigations required: Do not remove stumps, roots, or other below-ground biomass.						
Water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Jeremy Mears, Fish Biologist</i>	<i>4/3/2020</i>
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input type="checkbox"/> no effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect						





OTHER RESOURCE CONDITIONS (as applicable)	RESOURCE CONDITIONS PRESENT		MITIGATIONS REQUIRED		NAME/ TITLE	DATE		
	YES	NO	YES	NO				
Rationale:								
Describe Mitigations required:								
Visuals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emily Lauderdale, District Recreation Program Manager	3/24/2020		
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input type="checkbox"/> no effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect								
Rationale: Project is located above Kelly Stand Road and the river on a plateau and would be unlikely to be noticed by Forest visitors. Visual quality objectives would not be negatively impacted.								
Describe Mitigations required:								
Recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emily Lauderdale, District Recreation Program Manager	3/24/2020		
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect								
Rationale: Related timber sale activity affecting Kelly Stand would be analyzed for mitigation needs (recreation access) through the South Fork sale review.								
Describe Mitigations required:								
Fisheries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeremy Mears, Fish Biologist	4/5/2020		
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect								
Rationale:								
Describe Mitigations required:								
Wildlife	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nareff/Biologist	4-1-20		
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input type="checkbox"/> no effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect								
Rationale: Migratory songbirds that may nest in this opening should not be in Vermont at the time of the proposed harvest (March). Most invertebrates, amphibians, and reptiles will not be active in March; salamanders and frogs will start emerging in March on warm, wet nights. However, it is unlikely there will be any amphibians in the project area.								





OTHER RESOURCE CONDITIONS (as applicable)	RESOURCE CONDITIONS PRESENT		MITIGATIONS REQUIRED		NAME/ TITLE	DATE
	YES	NO	YES	NO		
Describe Mitigations required: No harvesting 1 April–31 August to protect migratory birds and bats. If any piles require burning, this should occur as soon as possible to avoid killing wildlife occupying the pile. If harvesting occurs in early March, be cognizant of the potential for hibernating wildlife.						
Ecological (Special Areas; Significant Ecological Features; Ecosystem Composition, Structure & Function)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gifford, Ecologist and Wildlife Biologist	4/1/2020
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input type="checkbox"/> no effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect						
Rationale:						
Describe Mitigations required: None.						
Non-native Invasive Plants	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MB Deller/ Botanist	March 30, 2020
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input type="checkbox"/> no effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect						
Rationale: Opening a new area is an invitation for NNIP, which may establish and spread, though hopefully be minimized with mitigations.						
Describe Mitigations required: To prevent introduction of NNIP, any wheeled/tracked equipment brought in to implement the work should be cleaned prior to accessing the site. In addition, plan the access route so that equipment does not travel through infestations to get to the site. Clean equipment prior to leaving the site, unless all work was done in areas free of infestations. Finally, work with the Forest botanist to plan treatment so that NNIP do not spread from the existing opening to the newly opened portion.						
Range (FLNF)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Matt Lark – Natural Resource Specialist	04/07/2020
Level of anticipated effect - Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no effect <input type="checkbox"/> effect – not adverse <input type="checkbox"/> adverse effect						
Rationale:						
Describe Mitigations required:						





OTHER CONSIDERATIONS (as applicable)	INVOLVEMENT REQUIRED		NAME/ TITLE	DATE
	YES	NO		
Timber	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Braun/Silviculturist	3/17/20
Remarks: Will need to be involved as with other permanent opening creation activities in writing prescription, coordinating during timber sale, and ensuring post-sale activities are entered and funded correctly.				
Fire/Fuels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LR Silvia, Fuels Specialist	04/07/20
Remarks:				
Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brian Austin/FE	3/26/2020
Remarks:				
Accessibility/Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DonnaMarks Safety&OccupHealth	3/31/2020
Remarks:				
Survey/Landline	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brian Austin/Staff Officer	3/26/2020
Remarks:				

Responsible Official: Martina Barnes

Documentation Level and CE Category (DM, LTF): DM 36 CFR 220.6(e): (6) *Timber stand and/or wildlife habitat improvement activities that do not include the use of herbicides or do not require more than 1 mile of low standard road construction.*

Who to include for scoping: SOPA, Sunderland

Forest Plan consistency: Yes

Field visit (who & when): Bat tree surveys, Fire for layout

Desired decision date: February 2021

Desired implementation date: Post decision

